

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1 A new and improved hot melt adhesive applicator
nozzle assembly comprises an adapter, a dispensing nozzle
5 mounted within the adapter, a nozzle retainer threadedly
engaged with the adapter for securing the dispensing nozzle
within the adapter, an air inlet ring rotatably mounted upon
the nozzle retainer and having an inlet air fitting fixedly
mounted therein, and an end cap which is threadedly mounted
10 upon the nozzle retainer. The end cap has swirl air passages
integrally incorporated therein, and the end cap and air in-
let ring are both fabricated from a suitable thermoplastic
polymer material such that all exposed surfaces of the hot
melt adhesive applicator nozzle assembly are plastic and are
15 therefore at substantially lower temperature levels than the
metal brass components of the hot melt adhesive applicator
nozzle assembly. The external peripheral surface of the end
cap is knurled so as to facilitate the manual removal of the
end cap without the need for special tools, and most import-
20 antly, the dispensing tip portion of the dispensing nozzle
is axially recessed with respect to the front surface of the
end cap so as not to comprise a readily externally access-
ible surface portion. In this manner, the potential for burn
and safety hazards to operator personnel has effectively
25 been eliminated.